

MANSFIELD AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE
draft Minutes of December 3, 2013, meeting
Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building, Conference Room B, 7:30 p.m.

1. Chairman Cyr called the meeting to order at 7:32.

Present: Al Cyr, Charlie Galgowski, Vicky Wetherell, , Kathleen Paterson, Ed Hall.

2. Minutes of the November 5, 2013 meeting were approved.

Old Business

3. *Mansfield Tomorrow* A draft of the POCD will be available for review in mid-December.

4. *Agriculture leases – Baxter field* The committee previously recommended that Shundahai Farm have an extended lease for this field. Since then, Shundahai Farm has decided not to lease the field. The only other applicant was Charlie Galgowski. After he presented a plot plan and a list of proposed capital improvements to the field, Galgowski recused himself from further discussion and voting. The committee discussed the proposal and the extent of capital expenditures. They voted unanimously to recommend that Galgowski have the lease on the same terms as offered to Shundahai Farm (Cyr motioned, Wetherell seconded). This would be a 10- year lease with an option to renew for an additional 10 years. The committee also voted unanimously to recommend that the entire parcel (both field and woods) be leased to Galgowski (Cyr motioned; Hall seconded).

5. *Farmers Meeting* The committee discussed the upcoming meeting for members of the agricultural community and town officials. The committee recommends an evening meeting during mid-week in February at E O Smith's Vo-Ag department. As in the past, the committee would request that Vo-Ag students offer a tour of the facilities before the meeting. Several topics are being considered for presentations and discussion at the meeting. Jennifer will be asked to contact the Vo-Ag department to ask if they wish to host the meeting.

New Business

6. *Approval of 2014 meeting dates* The committee reviewed the proposed meeting dates (first Tuesday of the month), and they approved these dates.

Future Agendas

7. The committee scheduled discussion of new farmer initiatives for the January 2014 meeting, of easements for the March 2014 meeting, and of a budget for outreach efforts at the January meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25. Next meeting on January 7, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

Vicky Wetherell, secretary

